

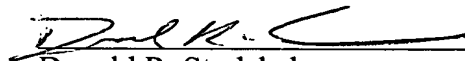
REMARKS

By this Supplemental Amendment, minor typographical errors in claims 18, 21-23 and 25-28 have been corrected. Accordingly, claims 4-8, 12-19 and 21-28 are pending for consideration, of which claims 17, 18, 21-23 and 25-28 are independent. In view of this action and the remarks submitted in the Amendment filed February 1, 2005, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of all the pending rejections.

In view of the amendments and arguments set forth above, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of all the pending rejections.

While the present application is now believed to be in condition for allowance, should the Examiner find some issue to remain unresolved, or should any new issues arise which could be eliminated through discussions with Applicants' representative, then the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone in order that the further prosecution of this application can thereby be expedited.

Respectfully submitted,


Donald R. Studebaker
Registration No. 32,815

NIXON PEABODY LLP
401 9th Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20004
Telephone: (202) 585-8000
Facsimile: (303) 585-8080
DRS/BCO